

**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

DATE: March 25, 2013

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Paula Lucey, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division

SUBJECT: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, seeking approval of an intergovernmental contract with the Milwaukee Police Department related to the expansion of the Mobile Crisis Team

Issue

The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to enter into a 2013 intergovernmental contract with the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) related to the Mental Health Community Investment Initiative for the Behavioral Health Division (BHD).

BHD's 2013 Budget includes a \$3 million community resource investment meant to increase community capacity for adult mental health services and reduce the reliance on inpatient hospitalization. One of the initiatives included in the investment was the development of additional community crisis options, specifically an expansion of the Mobile Crisis Team and partnership with MPD.

Background

In September of 2012, BHD presented an informational report regarding the expansion of the Mobile Crisis Team to the County Board. The Mobile Crisis Team has been in existence for over 15 years in Milwaukee County and works exclusively with individuals age 18 and over, and the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team works with children 17 and under. The role of the Mobile Crisis Team is to respond to behavioral health crises in the community.

As mentioned in the report, the Mobile Crisis Team evaluated 1,488 patients who were already placed on an Emergency Detention (ED) and in 63 percent of the cases, the team was able to drop the ED and pursue voluntary alternatives. Given the positive impact the team was shown to have in reducing the number of EDs, BHD is proposing to partner with MPD to expand this success.

Under the proposed model of care, the Milwaukee Police Officer and a BHD Behavioral Health Emergency Service Clinician (BHESC) will work together to respond to needs in the community. Depending upon the service volume, a second officer may be deployed later on this year. This team would serve as first responders to Behavioral Health emergency calls. Initially, this team would

primarily focus on Milwaukee Police Districts 3, 5 and 7, as these districts account for over 50 percent of EDs in the City of Milwaukee. All of these districts share a border and are centrally located.

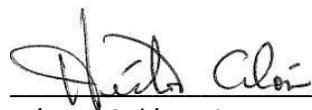
The MPD officers would receive intensive training in behavioral health and would undergo the same 30-day training undertaken by any new Mobile Crisis Team member. The hours of operation would be determined based upon a data review of the highest number of calls for behavioral health intervention. One of the proposed sites to deploy this team is the newly-opened North Side Crisis Recovery Center, which is located within the target area or another neutral community-based site.

In the original informational report, BHD anticipated that the initiative would start in late fall of 2012. However, over the last several months, BHD and the City of Milwaukee Police Department have been working on the project plan. Once the scope of work was prepared, it was required to undergo an internal review process by both Milwaukee County and City of Milwaukee. Now that the plan has completed its review, BHD is requesting to establish an intergovernmental contract with MPD for the services of two police officers dedicated to the Mobile Crisis Team. The first officer would start in May and depending upon the program needs, the second officer would start in September.

The contract reflects the salary, social security, overtime and fringe costs for two full-time police officers. BHD would pay up to \$125,000 from May 1 to December 31 or \$187,500 annually. The first officer would start effective May 1 and the second officer could start shortly thereafter, depending upon the program needs. The County would only reimburse the City for actual costs.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to establish an intergovernmental contract with the City of Milwaukee Police Department in an amount up to \$125,000 from May 1 to December 31, or \$187,500 annually.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

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